GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7478
ANSWERED ON:15.05.2002
PARCEL BOMB
GANGASANDRA SIDDAPPA BASAVARAJ

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a registered parcel bomb exploded at a local sub-post office in Bhubaneswar on January 3, 2002;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of people injured in this incident;

(c) whether in view of this the Government have issued any directives to the State Governments;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the precautionary measures being taken by the Government to check such incidence?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SIKDAR)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A parcel bearing number 213 with cloth packing was booked between 11.00 hrs to 11.30 hrs on 3/1/2002 at the Surya Nagar Sub Post Office of Bhubaneswar. It exploded at about 13.30 hrs on the same day. Three persons were injured in the incident.

(c) to (e): Necessary directions have been issued on 9-1-2002 to all Heads of Postal Circles to take adequate safeguards while handling any suspected article. A Universal Postal Union (UPU) guideline on Bomb Contingency Planning in Posts has been circulated. Instructions have also been issued to restrict parcel booking to select post offices and also to request customers, wherever feasible, to bring parcels in open condition for inspection before booking.